## **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A microcatheter, comprising:

an elongate shaft having a distal end and a proximal end, with a lumen extending therebetween;

a guidewire port disposed proximal of the distal end of the elongate shaft providing fluid communication with the lumen; and

a control valve overlying the guidewire port and exterior to the lumen, the control valve configured such that fluid pressure in the lumen biases the control valve to assist in forming a substantially fluid tight seal;

wherein the control valve is configured to allow passage of a guidewire therethrough and is configured to provide [[forms]] a substantially fluid tight seal when the guidewire is removed.

2. (Original) The microcatheter of claim 1, wherein the control valve comprises a polymer sheath overlaying the guidewire port and includes a slit through the wall thereof in fluid communication with the guidewire port and lumen.

## 3. (Cancelled)

- 4. (Currently Amended) The microcatheter of claim 1, wherein the control valve comprises a polymer sheath configured to fit over the elongate shaft and includes an angled slit that extends through the polymer sheath with at least a portion of the slit positioned over the guidewire port, the polymer sheath having an outer surface.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The microcatheter of claim 4, wherein the angled slit extends radially through the polymer sheath at an angle substantially less than 90 degrees to the outer surface of the polymer sheath relative to a radial line through the center of the lumen.

Appl. No. 10/667,056

Amdt. dated November 9, 2004

Reply to Office Action of August 11, 2004

6. (Original) The microcatheter of claim 1, wherein the control valve is configured to

assist device passage through the lumen when a guidewire is removed from the lumen.

7. (Original) The microcatheter of claim 6, wherein the device comprises a stent or a coil.

8. (Original) The microcatheter of claim 1, wherein the guidewire port comprises a

substantially round aperture about 0.016 inches in diameter.

9. (Original) The microcatheter of claim 4, wherein the angled slit of the polymer sheath

comprises an elongated slot having a length of about 0.24 inches and a width of about 0.002

inches.

10. (Original) The microcatheter of claim 4, wherein the angled slit is sized to permit

passage of a guidewire sheath.

11. (Original) The microcatheter of claim 4, wherein the angled slit is less than about

0.24 inches in length.

12. (Original) The microcatheter of claim 1, wherein the elongate shaft comprises an

inner polymer layer and an outer polymer layer disposed over the inner polymer layer, where the

guidewire port comprises an aperture in the inner polymer layer and the control valve comprises

an angled slit in the outer polymer layer.

13. (Currently Amended) A single lumen microcatheter, comprising:

an elongate shaft having a distal end and a proximal end, the elongate shaft having an

outer surface and an inner surface, the inner surface defining a lumen extending through the

elongate shaft;

Page 6 of 14

Appl. No. 10/667,056

Amdt. dated November 9, 2004

Reply to Office Action of August 11, 2004

a guidewire port positioned proximal of the distal end of the elongate shaft, the guidewire

port extending from the inner surface of the elongate shaft to the outer surface of the elongate

shaft; and

a polymer sheath disposed over the guidewire port, the polymer sheath having an inner

surface and an outer surface, the polymer sheath including a passage comprising an angled slit

extending radially through the polymer sheath at an angle such that the slit has a depth that is

greater than a thickness of the polymer sheath, the passage in communication with the guidewire

port, wherein the passage is configured to permit guidewire access through the guidewire port

while remaining substantially fluid tight in use when no guidewire is provided through the

passage.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The single lumen microcatheter of claim 13 [[14]], wherein the

angled slit extends radially through the polymer sheath at an angle substantially less than 90

degrees to the outer surface of the polymer sheath relative to a radial line through the center of

the lumen.

16. (Currently Amended) The single lumen microcatheter of claim 13 [[14]], wherein the

angled slit extends from the outer surface of the polymer sheath to the inner surface of the

polymer sheath.

17. (Currently Amended) The single lumen microcatheter of claim 13 [[14]], wherein the

angled slit is configured to accept both a guidewire and a sheath wherein the sheath is configured

to accept the guidewire therein.

18. (Original) A method of delivering a therapeutic element through a single lumen

microcatheter, the single lumen microcatheter comprising an elongate shaft, a guidewire port,

and a control valve disposed proximate the guidewire port, the method comprising:

advancing a guidewire sheath through the control valve and through the guidewire port;

Page 7 of 14

Appl. No. 10/667,056 Amdt. dated November 9, 2004 Reply to Office Action of August 11, 2004

advancing a guidewire through the guidewire sheath;

advancing the microcatheter over the guidewire to a treatment site;

removing the guidewire and the guidewire sheath, thereby closing the guidewire port; and advancing the therapeutic element through the shaft, past the closed guidewire port, to the treatment site.

- 19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the therapeutic element comprises embolic fluid.
- 20. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the therapeutic element comprises a mechanical device selected from the group consisting of stents, embolic coils, or other embolic material.